



News Release

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360-236-4074
360-236-4700

State disciplines health care providers

OLYMPIA -- The Washington State Department of Health has taken disciplinary actions or withdrawn charges against health care providers in our state.

The department's Health Systems Quality Assurance Division works with boards, commissions, and advisory committees to set licensing standards for more than 80 health care professions (e.g., medical doctors, nurses, counselors).

Information about health care providers is on the agency website. Click on "[Look up a healthcare provider license](#)" in the "How Do I?" section of the [Department of Health website](#) (doh.wa.gov). The site includes information about a health care provider's license status, the expiration and renewal date of their credential, disciplinary actions and copies of legal documents issued after July 1998. This information is also available by calling 360-236-4700. Consumers who think a health care provider acted unprofessionally are encouraged to call and report their complaint.

Chelan County

In October 2014 the Nursing Commission ended conditions on the credential of licensed practical nurse **Kelly Lynn Carpenter** (LP60415000).

Clark County

In October 2014 the Surgical Technologist Program charged surgical technologist **David Paul Harlan** (ST60039823) with unprofessional conduct. In 2014 Harlan was convicted of first-degree child molestation.

Grant County

In September 2014 the secretary of health denied a medical assistant-hemodialysis technician credential to **Olya V. Moskalets** (HT60471032), who was convicted of second-degree malicious mischief in 2013.

King County

In October 2014 the Unlicensed Practice Program notified **Emma Ifalari Cu** of its intent to issue

a cease-and-desist order. Charges say she worked as a dental hygienist performing dental hygiene services on at least 10 patients over about four years, but doesn't hold a dental hygienist license.

In October 2014 the Nursing Commission charged registered nurse **Bernadette Better Carter**, also known as Bernadette Better Israel (RN00140529), with unprofessional conduct. Carter allegedly didn't comply with a substance abuse monitoring contract.

In October 2014 the Nursing Commission ended conditions on the credentials of registered nurse and advanced registered nurse practitioner **Dominique Well** (RN00124421, AP30006054).

In October 2014 the Nursing Commission reinstated the registered nurse credential of **Laura R. Lincoln** (RN00150836), whose license was suspended in 2008. Lincoln stole drugs, syringes, and blank prescription forms, and forged prescriptions.

In October 2014 the Nursing Commission entered an agreement with registered nurse **Amy J. Thaves** (RN00134256) that requires her to participate in a substance abuse monitoring program. Thaves admitted diverting narcotic medication from patients at a clinic where she worked.

In October 2014 the Pharmacy Commission ended probation for pharmacist **Louis C. Wong** (PH00021451).

In October 2014 the Nursing Commission charged registered nurse **Sheila Rae Collins** (RN00088462) with unprofessional conduct. Collins allegedly didn't comply with a substance abuse monitoring contract.

Lincoln County

In October 2014 the secretary of health and the Nursing Commission ended conditions on the credential of intermediate life support technician and registered nurse **Amie M. Snider** (ES01165680, RN00173470).

Okanagan County

In October 2014 the Home Care Aide Program charged home care aide **Jacki Rae Tasker** (HM60334877) with unprofessional conduct. Tasker worked at a skilled nursing-assisted living facility and charges say she administered medications to residents five times without following instructions to notify a registered nurse. Tasker allegedly agreed to take a drug test, but didn't report to the clinic and resigned her position. She hasn't responded to a Department of Health investigator's inquiries. Tasker was convicted of driving under the influence of alcohol in 2013.

Pierce County

In October 2014 the Medical Commission charged physician **Kenneth J. Ritter** (MD00005834) with unprofessional conduct. Ritter allegedly didn't meet the standard of care in his

documentation practices, keeping hand-written and mostly illegible notes. He allegedly prescribed controlled substances and legend drugs without proper documentation. Charges say it's unclear whether Ritter adequately assesses patients or has a diagnostic justification for his prescriptions.

In October 2014 the Mental Health Counselor Program filed an amended statement of charges against mental health counselor associate **Donald Ray Strand** (MC60170337) to add an allegation that Strand provided counseling without the supervision of an approved supervisor. Strand told clients he was under supervision when he was not.

In October 2014 the Nursing Commission charged registered nurse **Tara L. Munford** (RN60140309) with unprofessional conduct. Munford allegedly didn't comply with a 2013 stipulation requiring her to write a report and complete supervised clinical practice hours.

In October 2014 the Nursing Commission charged licensed practical nurse **Lynn D. Wagner**, also known as Lynn D. LeTourneau (LP60001091), with unprofessional conduct. Wagner allegedly didn't complete required course work when she was placed on probation in 2013.

Snohomish County

In October 2014 the Medical Assistant Program conditionally granted an interim medical assistant credential to **Kimberly Lynn Bradley** (IC60412093), who must continue to comply with probationary terms placed on her X-ray technician credential in 2013.

Spokane County

In October 2014 the Chemical Dependency Professional Program charged chemical dependency professional **Amanda C. Seybert** (CP00006049) with unprofessional conduct. Seybert allegedly didn't comply with a 2012 agreement by not informing her supervisor that she was on probation and lying about her employment status.

Thurston County

In October 2014 the Nursing Commission ended probation for registered nurse **Virginia Hadley** (RN00064544).

In October 2014 the Nursing Assistant Program charged registered nursing assistant **Rebecca Lynn Cole** (NA60059202) with unprofessional conduct. While working for a home health agency, Cole allegedly accepted more than \$22,000 from the daughter of a client while also receiving paychecks from the agency to care for the client. The Department of Social and Health Services (DSHS) found that Cole financially exploited the client. Cole is appealing the DSHS finding.

Walla Walla County

In October 2014 the Nursing Commission entered an agreement with registered nurse **Kimberly Marie Christensen** (RN00150775) that requires her to re-enter a substance abuse

monitoring program. Christensen failed a drug test while still under a substance abuse monitoring contract.

Whatcom County

In October 2014 the Home Care Aide Program charged home care aide **Cindy Lee Fernley** (HM60326292) with unprofessional conduct. Fernley allegedly didn't comply with a substance abuse monitoring contract.

Yakima County

In October 2014 the Medical Assistant Program conditionally granted a registered medical assistant credential to **Christy Dawn Edelman Meluskey** (MR60453293). She'll be monitored for at least two years and must complete continuing education in ethics. Despite having no credential to practice medicine, Meluskey removed a patient's surgical staples and gave a patient a prescription for a legend drug.

Out of State

Oregon: In October 2014 the Dental Commission charged dentist **Kyle Jay Frisinger** (DE60011799) with unprofessional conduct. Frisinger's treatment and charting for patients allegedly didn't meet Washington's standard of care. Charges say his "dental care was generally disorganized and without adequate documentation of the care provided."

Oregon: In October 2014 the Nursing Commission ended probation for licensed practical nurse **Denise M. Hemenway-Mantei** (LP00028927).

Texas: In October 2014 the Nursing Commission charged registered nurse **Mary K. Britton** (RN00144549) with unprofessional conduct. Britton allegedly didn't comply with a substance abuse monitoring contract.

Note to Editors: Health care providers charged with unprofessional conduct have 20 days to respond to the Department of Health in writing. The case then enters the settlement process. If no disciplinary agreement can be reached, the case will go to a hearing.

The [Department of Health website](http://www.doh.wa.gov) (www.doh.wa.gov) is your source for *a healthy dose of information*. Also, [find us on Facebook](#) and [follow us on Twitter](#).

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